30th January 1956]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government declined to refer the dispute for adjudication as the company incurred loss in 1952 and as there was no surplus available in 1953 for distribution as bonus.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Before a dispute is referred for adjudication, it is sent to the Labour Officer and then the matter is sent to Government for deciding whether it should be referred for adjudication or not. This process takes a lot of time. So, why not the Government make it a policy to refer all disputes raised by labour unions for adjudication? Will the Government consider this question sympathetically and refer all industrial disputes for adjudication?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : While the Government are sympathetic in this matter, the Government do not agree with the view that all industrial disputes should invariably be referred for adjudication. The Government have a discretion in the matter and they have to exercise that discretion before they decide on referring a dispute for adjudication.

* 3081 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 9-30 a.m.

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum, dated 4th February 1955, from the Secretary, Malabar Plantation Group of Malabar Trade Union Congress, regarding the dispute between the plantation owners and workers in Malabar on the question of bonus for the year 1954; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Assistant Commissioner of Labour conducted conciliation proceedings in the matter on 5th August 1955 and 5th December 1955. The parties have come to an agreement on the issue of bonus for the year 1954 for the workers and the staff in the plantation estates of this State.

* 3082 Q.—SRI C. KANDASAMY (on behalf of Sri N. K. Palanisamy) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was an agreement between the management of the Kadri Mills, Coimbatore, and the workers on 27th August 1954 that third shift workers of the mills would be made permanent;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the agreement was violated on 7th March 1955 by the management; and

(c) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) The management have implemented the agreement substantially by making 70 workers permanent; but they have violated the latter part of clause 2 of the agreement, in so far as they